

# ***Casco Bay Regional Shellfish Council***

## ***Meeting Minutes***

### ***March 17, 2004 18:30***

**Attendance:** Guy Watson, Don Card, Joe Delano, John Macintosh, Steve Walker

Chairman Watson called the meeting to order at 18:30 p.m.

**ITEM #1 Elections** The members present re-elected the standing slate of officers: Watson Chair, Delano Vice Chair, Walker Secretary

**ITEM #2 Recap of Fisherman's Forum** Watson reviewed the new shellfish handling and transport regulations as presented at the Forum. These new regulations are in place for public health concerns and include not only requirements for handling and transport, but also new tagging requirements and log book requirements if not selling to a certified dealer.

**ITEM #3 Casco Bay Shellfish Promotion** Members discussed the potential for promoting Casco Bay clams through use of portable food vending trailers set up to fry clams at fairs, craft shows and other public venues. Watson offered to contact the AmVets to research their set up and potential for use by CBRSC. Members then inquired as to the status of the brochures drafted for the council in 2002. Walker stated that he would ask Dan Devereaux about their status and see if photocopying the brochures could expedite the process. Watson stated that the web-site project needs to be revived. Walker stated that the Town of Brunswick would again have an intern this summer and this project is on the planned task list. It was suggested that the site link to Don Card's shellfish page. Watson suggested that a video for local access cable could be a worthwhile tool. It was suggested that grant money might be available for production costs. Macintosh suggested following the lead of the lobster industry and the council agreed that working with Karen Young might help to identify other public education and promotion opportunities.

**ITEM #4 NEW BUSINESS** Delano encouraged the Council to revisit the potential for raising depuration fees to \$5 per bushel. Card stated that the big hurdle is being able to demonstrate where the money collected will be used. Watson stated that the fees need to go back into local resource management programs, seeding, and similar activities. Card suggested that an alternative could be a local depuration license fee program where monies collected would go towards keeping local sewage treatment plants operating within depuration quality limits. It was agreed that Beth Edmonds should be invited to an upcoming meeting.

#### **#6 (SET AGENDA)**

No agenda was set pending word whether Sen. Beth Edmonds or Karen Young can attend the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned 20:00